BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
3 9999 10232 300 1

2358.
145

No. 2358.145

THE TRUSTEES OF THE
PUBLIC LIBRARY
OMNIVM
LVX
CIVIVM
OF THE CITY OF
BOSTON
1852 . 1878

2 cop

Massachusetts Bay 1630 1930

Tercentenary

in New England

*23358.145

REPORT

TO THE GENERAL COURT BY THE SPECIAL COMMISSION OF NINETEEN TWENTY-EIGHT

REPRINTED FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION SERVICE
—by—
MASSACHUSETTS BAY TERCENTENARY, Inc.
1929

Gov. Pub. 1929

REPORT

OF THE

SPECIAL COMMISSION

ON THE

2358.145

CELEBRATION OF THE TERCENTENARY

OF THE FOUNDING OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS BAY COLONY

AND RELATIVE TO A

FITTING MEMORIAL TO THE FOUNDERS THEREOF

AUTHORIZED BY CHAPTER 21 OF THE RESOLVES OF 1928

PUBLIC DOCUMENT

DECEMBER, 1928

23
2

BOSTON
WRIGHT & POTTER PRINTING CO., LEGISLATIVE PRINTERS
32 DERNE STREET
1929

RESOLVE CREATING COMMISSION.

The Special Commission on the Celebration of the Tercentenary of the Founding of the Massachusetts Bay Colony and Relative to a Fitting Memorial to the Founders Thereof was created under chapter 21 of the Resolves of 1928, as follows:

RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR THE INVESTIGATION AND STUDY BY A SPECIAL COMMISSION RELATIVE TO THE CELEBRATION OF THE TERCENTENARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BAY COLONY, AND RELATIVE TO A FITTING MEMORIAL TO THE FOUNDERS THEREOF.

Resolved, That an unpaid special commission, consisting of two members of the senate, to be designated by the president thereof, five members of the house of representatives, to be designated by the speaker thereof, and two persons to be appointed by the governor, shall consider and study the question of the proper celebration of the three hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Massachusetts Bay Colony and the matter of the erection or placing within the state house or upon the grounds thereof of a suitable and fitting memorial to commemorate the founders of said colony. Said commission shall report to the general court the results of its study and its recommendations, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry the same into effect and estimates of the probable cost thereof, by filing the same with the clerk of the house of representatives not later than the first day of December in the current year, and shall at the same time file a copy of said report with the budget commissioner. Said commission shall be provided with quarters in the state house, and may, with the approval of the governor and council, expend for clerical and other services and expenses such sums, not exceeding two thousand dollars in the aggregate, as may hereafter be appropriated.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION ON THE CELEBRATION OF THE TERCENTENARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BAY COLONY AND RELATIVE TO A FITTING MEMORIAL TO THE FOUNDERS THEREOF.

Introduction.

In accordance with the resolve creating the Special Commission on the Celebration of the Tercentenary of the Founding of the Massachusetts Bay Colony and relative to a Fitting Memorial to the Founders thereof, the Governor appointed Hon. Wellington Wells of Boston and Hon. Frank Roe Batchelder of Worcester; the President of the Senate appointed Hon. Alvin E. Bliss of Malden and Hon. Samuel H. Wragg of Needham; the Speaker of the House appointed Representatives Louis L. Green of Cambridge, Lemuel W. Standish of Stoneham, Florence S. Slocomb of Worcester, George P. Anderson of Boston, and William H. Barker of Boston.

At the first meeting of the Commission in the State House on September 10, 1928, organization was effected by the election of Hon. Wellington Wells as chairman, Hon. Alvin E. Bliss as vice-chairman, and Eugene W. Mason of Boston as secretary.

Thereafter, during a series of hearings, public expressions as to the scope of the tercentenary observance in 1930 were obtained from representatives of diversified interests and activities, including historical, patriotic, civic, military and fraternal organizations, educational, social, industrial, commercial and other elements in the life of the Commonwealth.

That the public has a keen appreciation of the significance of the anniversary and an eager interest in plans for the celebration is a factor that early impressed the Commission. While primarily the observance will be within the borders of Massachusetts, with the other New England States joining in the events, its forecast already has attracted nation-wide attention. Official recognition and participation will be extended by the Federal government and by various States throughout the country. In three hundred years the Massachusetts Bay Colony has put its mark upon the entire world.

In its study of plans for the tercentenary year, the Commission has considered nothing in the nature of a world's fair or any other highly costly venture. It contemplates a celebration worthy of the Commonwealth and the occasion, which shall not only be dignified, but also hold interest and offer enjoyment to all, leaving permanent tangible sources of inspiration.

An official commission, as the agency of the State government, will have charge of the Commonwealth's direct part in the program, and will function as a controlling and co-ordinating influence in the anniversary plans of cities, towns, communities and organizations.

Projection of a fitting memorial to the founders, commemoration of the three hundredth anniversary of the General Court, presentation of outdoor spectacles, such as historical and industrial parades and demonstrations by the army and navy — these are major features to be organized and carried out by the State.

Pageantry, which will have a conspicuous and important place in the activities of the anniversary year, comes very properly within the province of municipalities and organizations, with appropriate environment and the scenes of historical incidents to be found in many sections of Massachusetts. Various cities and towns already have tercentenary committees at work, and the keynote of the municipal preparations is local

celebrations at local expense. Organizations likewise will largely finance their own programs.

On every hand there is a realization of the possibilities that the tercentenary holds. It has well been termed the greatest opportunity in three hundred years for the people of Massachusetts to take account of stock, to sum up what has been accomplished, to set it forth. The celebration will reach far outside our boundaries. It will recall for a home-coming thousands of our people in other States; it will draw tourists from many parts of the world. A diversified, decentralized program, planned along new lines, as proposed, will make a new appeal.

The Commission bespeaks the active interest of all municipalities and organizations, and urges the appointment of committees to plan for their full participation in the tercentenary events.

The Massachusetts Bay Tercentenary, Incorporated, an organization which has been in existence for some time, and which numbers in its membership many prominent citizens, is an indication of the interest of the people and their desire to bring about a fitting celebration.

The Coming of the Charter.

The charter of the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, which Governor Winthrop and his associates brought to these shores in 1630, constituted the beginning of the development of civil rule in America. It did more to establish the government of free people than any other episode in history. It became the frame of government for the colony, and in the Revolution most of the colonies adopted State Constitutions on the same model.

In form, the charter was similar to the grants to other English corporations of the time, and never was intended by the Crown to be transferred to other soil. The "Freemen" (stockholders) annually elected the Governor, Deputy Governor and Assistants, who con-

stituted the "Court of Assistants," or board of directors. Freemen and Assistants met in a "Great and General Court" (stockholders' meeting), to transact the important business of the Company. That is why the Massachusetts Legislature still is officially styled the General Court.

The settlement at Salem and the earlier and smaller settlements at Plymouth and varied favored spots along the coast were strengthened and placed beyond the chance of failure by the coming in 1630 of Winthrop and his party, bearing with them the charter of the company.

The distinction between the Puritan and the Pilgrim has not always been clearly drawn. In the latter part of the sixteenth century there were four prominent groups in England — members of the Church of England, adherents to the Church of Rome, Puritans and Separatists. The Separatists, who became the Pilgrims of American history, withdrew from the National Church and established churches of their own. They founded the Plymouth Colony.

Puritanism, in the beginning, was an effort to escape from formalism, but it gradually passed into an opposite formalism as rigid as that from which it had escaped. The Puritans did, however, remain within the National Church. Men of wealth and influence were numbered among the Puritans interested in ventures across the ocean. They founded the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

The Royal Charter of March 4, 1629, was the crowning effort of more than a century of struggle looking toward a permanent settlement. It granted to twenty-six persons complete possession, as owners, so far as the Crown of England could give title, which was wholly within the kingly prerogative of Charles I, of the territory which is now represented substantially by the present north and south boundaries of Massachusetts and extending westward without territorial limit.

John Endicott, who had come to Salem in 1628, was chosen by the Company in London, on April 30, 1629, to be Governor of the Plantation in Massachusetts Bay, while Matthew Craddock was Governor of the Company in London. That same year there were manifestations of a plan to move the government of the Company to the colony. Puritan leaders did not wish to go to America under the humiliation of a system that kept their charter in England. They remembered the Virginia Colony, ruled from London, under just such a charter as this, which had enjoyed only a limited self-government, and that the Virginia Company's charter and property had been confiscated by the Crown.

A letter from Endicott, written on May 27, 1629, unfortunately missing, was read at a meeting of the Company in London on July 28 by Governor Craddock, who at the same time "read certain propositions conceived by himself, viz.: That for the advancement of the Plantation, the inducing and encouraging persons of worth and quality to transplant themselves and families thither, and for other weighty reasons therein contained, to transfer the government of the Plantation to those who shall inhabit there, and not to continue the same in subordination to the Company here as now it is. The business occasioned some debate; but by reason of the many great and considerable consequences thereupon depending, it was not now resolved upon, but those present are desired privately and seriously to consider hereof, . . . and . . . to carry this business secretly, that the same be not divulged."

It has been suggested that "they doubtless apprehended that measures might be taken to defeat their purpose, should it become known to those in authority." There was the plain inference that the charter and controlling government of this Company, like all other English corporations, should remain in England. But there was no specific place of meeting named in

the Charter, nor statement of responsibility to the Crown in carrying out its provisions.

At a meeting of the Great and General Court at Thomas Goffe's house in London, on August 29, 1629, it was voted to move the entire organization to New England. They "weighed the greatness of the work in regard of the consequence, God's glory and the Church's good," with other considerations, "for the better encouragement of ourselves and others that shall join with us in this action and to the end that every man may without scruple dispose of his estate and affairs as may best fit his preparation for this voyage."

On October 20, 1629, the stockholders elected John Winthrop "Governor for the ensuing year," and on February 10, 1630, the last meeting of the Great and General Court was held in England. To Winthrop was now entrusted the responsibility of transferring the government of the Company to New England. Preparation for a large number to embark with the new Governor continued until March 22, when the first four ships, the "Arbella," the "Talbot," the "Jewell" and the "Ambrose," were ready for the voyage.

Governor Winthrop, on the "Arbella," landed at Salem June 12, 1630, and called the first meeting of the Great and General Court at Boston on October 19, 1630. Before the end of that year two thousand settlers had come over, the beginning of the great immigration of English Puritans. They made Massachusetts Bay the most populous of the English colonies, and Boston the largest town in America north of Mexico City.

Those who arrived in 1630 refused to confine their settlements to Salem and Charlestown, Boston and Cambridge, as was desired by the leaders. They picked out likely spots which they named Roxbury, Dorchester, Watertown, Medford and Saugus, divided up the land and proceeded to run their own affairs

through town meetings, the beginning of the great instrument of democracy, — the New England town meeting.

Stated elections and the use of the ballot were the peculiar features of the charter that became the seeds of democracy. The important thing was that Representatives, Assistants and the Governor himself had to go before the voters for election at a stated period every year. In contrast to the English or parliamentary system, this corporate method of election put an almost continuous check on both executive officers and representatives. It became an essential principle of every State Constitution and of the Federal Constitution.

Three Hundredth Anniversary of the Great and General Court.

Notable in the events of the tercentenary year will be the commemoration of the three hundredth anniversary of "The General Court of Massachusetts," which is the official designation of the Legislature, given by the Constitution of 1780, and which is, next to the British House of Commons, the oldest legislative body in the world.

Provision was made in the charter for a Governor, Deputy Governor and eighteen Assistants, to be from time to time elected or chosen out of the Freemen of the Company. The Governor, or, in his absence, the Deputy Governor, could order the assembling of the Company to consult on matters of business.

The Governor, Deputy and Assistants could hold a court once a month or oftener. A "Greate and Generall Courte," or, to use the language of the patent, "one greate, generall and solemn assemblie," was to be held every last Wednesday in January, April, May and November. The Governor, Deputy Governor, Assistants and other officers were annually chosen in the General Court held the last Wednesday in April.

The first General Court met in Boston on October 19, 1630, but the Governor and Assistants practically controlled the government from 1630 to May, 1634, for more than thirty Courts of Assistants were held, with only four General Courts. The powers and duties of the Court of Assistants, sitting for the trial of civil and criminal cases, were not distinguished from those of the same Magistrates acting in the executive and legislative capacities; in fact, for some years it exercised all the executive, legislative and judicial functions.

Origin of the House of Representatives.

The Freemen (or stockholders) had surrendered their rights to the Assistants (or directors) on October 9, 1630. They soon realized they were having no voice or vote in the conduct of affairs.

An agreement was made, December 6, 1630, to build a fortified town for the seat of government upon the neck between Roxbury and Boston, but finding the location undesirable, they resolved to "build at a place a mile east from Watertown, near Charles River." Here they began the "New-Towne" in the spring of 1631. On February 3, the court ordered a levy of £60 on the several plantations "towards the makeing of a pallysadoe about the new-towne."

The question arose as to whether the government had power to make laws or raise taxes without the people, the Magistrates claiming that the Assistants were chosen by the Freemen and so were their Representatives, and authorized to act in their behalf. Watertown refused to pay the tax because it was not represented in the body that imposed it. Thus early was the principle laid down that there should be no taxation without representation, which was to become the great cry of the next century.

Further dissatisfaction on the part of the Freemen with the actions of the Assistants arose on account of legislation as to swine. The Freemen demanded sight

of the charter, restoration of their rights and representation by delegates, on April 1, 1634, which resulted in the repeal of all former orders concerning swine, a modified Freeman's oath, and the holding of four General Courts (consisting of the Deputies or Representatives chosen by the towns and the Assistants or Magistrates), which alone had the right to admit Freemen, make laws, elect, appoint and remove civil and military officers, etc. So it will be seen that the rights of the Freemen were early recognized. Thus came into existence, on May 14, 1634, the House of Representatives as we know it today.

Two Houses.

For some years the Assistants, or Magistrates, and Deputies sat together in one room and voted together, the majority of the whole deciding a vote, but their relative powers finally caused much discussion. A great deal of inconvenience was occasioned by their meeting jointly, so each body was authorized to sit and act separately (1643–44). Bills could originate in either House, and the approval of both was necessary to pass an act. Thus two separate Houses were established, one having a negative on the other.

A circumstance that contributed largely to the separation into two Houses was an argument over the identity of a sow, which Mrs. Elizabeth Sherman, a poor woman, claimed had strayed away from her some years before, but her title was disputed by one more fortunate in this world's goods. The sow had been impounded by Captain Robert Keayne (founder and first commander of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company), who gave in his will (of fifty thousand words) a sum of money for the erection of the first Town House.

A majority of the Deputies voted in favor of Mrs. Sherman, but a majority of the Assistants voted against her. The discussion was bitter, and as they could not agree as to whether they were sitting as one

body or two it was impossible to settle the case. Finally, as Governor Hutchinson informs us, "pity and compassion for the poor woman prevailed with the common people against right."

The Magistrates and Deputies had, from 1634 to 1644, met in the same room and voted together, but the House took itself apart in the latter year, into its own chamber. It was not until 1650 that the Magistrates had a separate record.

Meeting Places of the General Court.

The General Court, from 1630 to 1640, met in various places in and about Boston, including the Governor's House and the First Church; from 1657 in the Town House, until it was burned in 1711; from 1711 to 1713, in the First Church; from 1713 in the Town House, until it in turn was burned in 1747.

In 1702–03, on account of the smallpox in Boston, the session was held in the home of Stephen Minott on Boston Neck. The session began in Boston May 31, 1721; was adjourned to Cambridge June 6, on account of the smallpox; August 23 it met at George Tavern, Boston Neck; November 3, at Harvard College for the same reason. On May 2, 1722, it met at the college and adjourned to Swan Tavern in Cambridge, because of smallpox near the college. The second and third adjourned sessions of 1728–29 were held in Salem by order of Governor Burnet. The session of September 9, 1730, begun in Cambridge "in the College Hall," because of smallpox in Boston, met by adjournment in East Meeting House, Roxbury, George Tavern and the Court House, Boston.

The third Town House, the present Old State House, built in 1748 within the walls of its predecessor, was occupied until the completion of the Bulfinch State House, the first session being held here January 11, 1798.

The last session of the General Court under the Province Charter was held in Salem June 17, 1774.

The Governor sent his secretary to declare it dissolved, but he was not admitted. Whereupon, a proclamation was published on the stairs leading to the Representatives' Chamber. Before they dissolved, however, the General Court elected five delegates to the First Continental Congress in Philadelphia and made provision for a local Provincial Congress, with delegates from every town.

The Provincial Congress met in Salem, October 7, 1774, elected John Hancock as its president, and adjourned. They met again in Concord from October 12 to 14; in Cambridge, October 17 to 29, and from November 23 to December 10.

The second Provincial Congress met in Cambridge February 1, 1775, holding sessions there and in Concord and Watertown, adjourning May 29. The third Provincial Congress convened on May 31, 1775, in Watertown, with Joseph Warren as president, and adjourned July 17, 1775. As the office of Governor was declared vacant, a Council of Twenty Eight acted as an executive and legislative body until the adoption of the Constitution of Massachusetts.

Constitution of the Commonwealth.

Due note should be taken of the fact that also in 1930 will occur the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of Massachusetts, which is the oldest written Constitution in the world.

In September, 1776, the Legislature recommended "to their constituents to choose their deputies to the next General Court, with power to adopt a form of government for the State." This recommendation was received in the following spring. In May, 1777, the General Court convened, and as early as it was possible a committee, consisting of four members of the Council and eight of the House, was appointed to prepare a State Constitution.

The committee reported a draft in January, 1778, which the General Court approved and submitted to the people. The people rejected it, five to one. Many reasons were given for this vote: (1) that a special convention should be called; (2) that the times were too unsettled; (3) that there was no Bill of Rights; (4) that there was no proper separation of the executive and legislative branches; (5) that many of the most able men were away, attending the Continental Congress.

The agitation continued, and a body of delegates assembled in Cambridge September 1, 1779, with James Bowdoin as president. A committee of twenty-six was appointed and they chose a subcommittee of three to draft the constitution, — James Bowdoin, Samuel Adams and John Adams. The delegates assembled the following January, 1780, when the draft was presented and adopted.

Copies were sent to all the towns and plantations on March 2, 1780, with directions that votes, for or against, should be returned on the first Wednesday in June, at which time it appeared that more than two-thirds of the votes were in favor, and the convention dissolved.

The first General Court under the new frame of government met in the State House October 25, 1780, with two hundred members. Amendments to the Constitution have been ratified from time to time until now there are seventy amendments.

Memorial to the Founders.

That phase of the Commission's study relating to "the matter of the erecting or placing within the State House or upon the grounds thereof of a suitable and fitting memorial to commemorate the founders of said colony," has been carefully considered in the light of what would be worthy of those who left their lasting impression upon the Nation, while at the same time

not calling for the extravagant expenditure of public funds.

Within the State House, with all its treasures of historical commemoration, there is a lack of attention to the period of the seventeenth century that marked the coming of the pioneers of a new world, to lay down principles and influences that have resulted in our twentieth century institutions.

To set forth striking incidents in the early days of the Commonwealth by means of a mural presentation would, in the opinion of the Commission, render to the people of today and to posterity a fitting memorial to the founders of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

In the area on the third floor of the State House leading to the House of Representatives there are two extensive wall spaces, — the south wall, where is located the statue of Governor Roger Walcott, and the west wall, which is that of the House chamber. Panels in either of these walls are suitable in size and extent to accommodate a mural treatment illustrative of the events of the early settlement and of the final determination of a form of government.

The Art Commission for the Commonwealth, with which your Commission has consulted, foresees the establishment in this area of a Hall of Fame, toward which a splendid beginning has been made by the Wolcott statue and the mural to the 104th Infantry, A. E. F.

No more appropriate subject could be presented than the founding of the General Court, the corner stone of our American form of government, and no subject could be more inspiring or more in harmony with the main object of the celebration in 1930.

It is estimated that satisfactory murals from the hands of good painters could be obtained for a sum totaling $30,000.

CONCORD AND LEXINGTON.

With the inspiration that the tercentenary will bring to public interest in the heroic lives of the men and women of Colonial days, the Commission believes the time is opportune to revive the plan for preservation, at least in part, of the route of the advance and retreat of the British troops between Concord and Lexington April 19, 1775. Colonial developments that led to the separation from the mother country will have a foremost place in the commemorative events. As a contribution to the period of the Revolution, no more fitting effort could be put forth than the preservation of scenes that witnessed the first battle of the Revolution.

There are two pieces of the old road between Concord and Lexington, which, fortunately, have been completely detoured in the construction of the modern State highway and remain little changed after more than one hundred and fifty years.

The westerly piece of the original road, about a mile long, and wholly in the town of Lincoln, is the one the settlers made when they came to Concord in 1635, therefore going back to early colonial times. This section of the route, in the opinion of the Commission, should be preserved to the Nation, if no other part of the route is acquired.

Going toward Boston from Concord, one enters this road by the first turning after passing the Concord line. The turn of the road toward the right, after passing a little rise, has of late years been called the "Bloody Angle," probably a Civil War term, but here applied because of the fighting at this spot. This place is the one described by the Rev. Edmund Foster, who took part in the fighting. Mr. Foster's account, after describing the fighting at Meriam's Corner, is as follows:

> The enemy retreated and we followed. We saw a wood at a distance, which appeared to lie on or near the road the enemy must

pass. Many leaped over the wall and made for that wood. We arrived just in time to meet the enemy. There was then, on the opposite side of the road, a young growth of wood well filled with Americans. The enemy was now between two fires, renewed and briskly kept up. They ordered out a flank-guard on the left to dislodge the Americans from their posts behind large trees; but they only became a better mark to be shot at. A short but sharp contest ensued, in which the enemy received more deadly injury than at any one place from Concord to Charlestown. Eight or more of their number were killed on the spot, and, no doubt, many wounded.

Farther on, the road joins the Virginia Road, with the two old Hartwell houses, one of them built in 1636 and still standing, now carefully kept by persons who bought it to preserve it and maintain it in its old aspect. At the time of the fight, these houses were occupied by the captain and first sergeant of the Lincoln Minute Men.

When Paul Revere and William Dawes, who were bringing to Concord the warning of the coming of the British, about 1 o'clock of the morning of the 19th of April, 1775, were intercepted by a party of British officers, Revere was captured and Dawes was turned back. But a young doctor, Samuel Prescott of Concord, who was with them, escaped. He jumped fences and galloped through fields, and came back to the main road near these two houses. He gave warning of what was happening, and so made sure that the Lincoln men would be mustered and marched to Concord in time to be of use. This gives one more interesting fact connected with this piece of road.

After resuming the main highway, Massachusetts Avenue, one passes the Revere Memorial Tablet, which marks the spot where Revere was captured. Here is to be seen the inevitable consequence of modern development along the improved roads. Within three years this unprotected historical site has become cluttered with filling station, tourists' cottages and eating places.

The second old piece of road turns off to the left of the main highway and is partly in Lincoln and partly in Lexington. This road still has some of its old walls,

but is not so interesting as the other. While it is doubtless true that the scattered boulders in the first field were used by the Americans as cover, there is no other memorial of the fighting until one reaches the end of this old piece, where it again joins Massachusetts Avenue.

Here there is an abrupt little crag, standing above the junction of the roads. Here was placed, many years ago, a tablet to commemorate the fighting which took place at this spot and near by. And above this tablet, on the face of the bluff, has for some years been a great advertising sign. If the second piece of the road cannot be set apart, it would seem to be desirable to buy this bluff, or its face, as a place where some day a piece of sculpture, of heroic size, might well be placed. Meanwhile it is striking and beautiful, and the disfigurement by the sign is very displeasing because of the historic interest of the place.

One remaining spot worth preserving is in the town of Concord, at Meriam's corner, still very little changed, where the first fighting took place after the fight at Concord Bridge. A few acres bought here would keep this corner, and its memorial stone, in the present attractive condition.

As stated, the Commission believes that as a start toward the preservation of this historical route immediate steps should be taken to acquire the westerly piece of the original road, and enough of the territory on the north side of it to include the ancient buildings and sufficient space for a memorial park or recreation ground. Within a few years a new highway will be laid out, it is expected, branching off from Massachusetts Avenue just east of the old road and running northwesterly to Bedford, where the new Federal Veterans' Hospital is located.

Thus territory acquired along the old road would lie between the old road and the highway running to Bedford, so that land not included in the reservation would front on the new highway and provide on that

side for an outlet for any development in this territory in the years to come.

Under the law, the Department of Public Works has authority to lay out the old road as a State highway, in the sense that it would come under State control and maintenance.

It is estimated that an appropriation of $25,000 would be sufficient to acquire land on the north side of the road.

General Conclusions and Recommendations.

Conclusions and recommendations of the Commission are submitted as follows.

Pageantry.

Pageantry, which has been described as an effort of the people to recapture the spirit of their past, to weigh it, and to re-enact such episodes as have been most significant and constructive in the building of their town, their State and their Nation, has been given full consideration. In the belief of the Commission, a single pageant, involving a large expenditure and subject to the hazards of unfavorable weather, would be less advisable and not so effective as a series of pageants produced by cities, towns, communities and organizations, acting separately or in conjunction, depicting important epochs in the history of the Commonwealth. It will be possible to arrange such a series in historical sequence, each a chapter in a complete narrative, with specific subjects to be assigned by the State Tercentenary Commission, while at the same time including a self-expression of the people in the different localities and of the various organizations.

Parades.

No phase of the tercentenary celebration will constitute a more compelling appeal to the public, the Commission believes, than parades, well organized, to pre-

sent in an unfolding panorama the story of three hundred years of social, political and industrial development in Massachusetts and New England. Two parades, to be put on in Boston, are proposed by the Commission, — the first, a historical spectacle on the Fourth of July; the second, an industrial demonstration on Labor Day.

Historical Parade.

By floats and other appropriate features, the epochal events of three centuries may be graphically portrayed, in their sequence, by a historical parade, climaxed by appropriate exercises on Boston Common at the conclusion of the parade, with a grouping of the floats and other factors.

An outline of procedure for the preparation and presentation of the historical parade is as follows: The State Tercentenary Commission to be the controlling and co-ordinating agency, charged with the working out of the general plan and the conduct of the parade; overhead expenses for organizing and directing to be borne by the State; expenses for floats and features to be borne by the society or organization to which float or feature has been assigned; assignment of subjects or events, to be depicted by floats or otherwise, to be made by the Commission to the society or organization to which such subject or event would be most appropriate; committees representing all the people to be appointed by organizations and societies to prepare the part their respective groups shall take in the parade, conferring with the Commission. In other words, the Commission will lay out the general plan for the parade, and the participating organizations will prepare in detail their part in the celebration.

A general outline of historical events to be depicted in the historical parade is here indicated:

1. Early Inhabitants. (The red man before civilization came.)
2. Landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth. (1620.)
3. Signing of the Charter. (England, 1629.)
4. Landing of Governor Winthrop with the Charter at Salem. (1630.)
5. The first General Court. (1630.)
6. Confederation of the Colonies of Plymouth, Massachusetts Bay and Connecticut for mutual defence against the Indians. (1643.)
7. Province of Maine made a county of Massachusetts. (1652.) First mint established.
8. Settlement of other cities and towns outside of Boston.
9. Colonial Wars.
10. Uniting of Plymouth Bay Colony with Massachusetts Bay Colony. (1692.)
11. Witchcraft at Salem.
12. Boston Massacre. (1770.)
13. Committee of Correspondence. (1772.)
14. Boston Tea Party. (1773.)
15. The ride of Paul Revere and of William Dawes. (1775.)
16. Battle of Lexington and Concord. (1775.)
17. Battle of Bunker Hill. (1775.)
18. Evacuation of Boston by the British. (1776.)
19. Constitution adopted by the State declaring "all men are born equal." (1780.)
20. Shay's Rebellion. (1786.)
21. Federal Constitution of the United States ratified by Massachusetts. (1789.)
22. War of 1812.
23. Maine becomes an independent State. (1820.)
24. Civil War. (1861.)
25. Spanish American War. (1898.)
26. World War. (1917.)
27. Massachusetts today.

Industrial Parade.

Industries, which have been responsible for the growth and progress of Massachusetts and New England, will be given the opportunity to present to the public a picture in brief of their development by means of the parade on Labor Day, as projected, a strictly industrial parade of floats and features, such as the industries concerned may elect to enter.

Proposed procedure for this part of the program is: Industries participating in the parade to be assigned

places according to the date of their founding; parade to be directed by the State Tercentenary Commission; cost of organizing and directing the parade to be borne by the State or charged *pro rata* to the industries; expenses of features and music to be borne by the industries entered; all industries in New England to be invited to take part in the parade; the Commission to work out the plans in conjunction with the Associated Industries of Massachusetts and the New England Council.

Army and Navy.

Military and naval participation can be made an attractive feature of the celebration. The Commission proposes that a Military Day be observed, with the entire National Guard of Massachusetts mobilized for a parade and review in Boston, on the occasion of its annual tour of duty at Camp Devens in August. Further, that arrangements be made with the Navy Department for a Navy Day in Boston, with demonstrations in the harbor and a naval parade.

The Centennial Legion, made up of military units which were in existence in the thirteen original colonies at the time of the Revolutionary War, and which are still maintained, will convene in Boston in June, 1930. It would seem fitting that the State extend its official recognition to the convention and designate the parade as one of the features of the tercentenary celebration.

Boys and Girls.

Plans for activities on the part of the boys and girls, extending throughout the anniversary year, have been given weight by the Commission. To arrest the attention and capture the imagination of the young folks will be one of the marked contributions of the tercentenary observance. Under the direction of the State Department of Education, special programs will be arranged in the schools, such as films telling the story of America's beginning and progress, debates on

historical subjects, and other exercises. The first schoolhouse was built in Dorchester, the first legislation to promote education was in Massachusetts.

At least one day should be given over to a special demonstration by organizations of the young, such as the Boy Scouts of America, of whom there are 28,000 in the State; the Girl Scouts, of whom there are 16,000; the Children of the American Revolution, numbering 1,000, and other juvenile groups coming forward in the spirit of patriotism and service.

For the Boy Scouts, a modified Olympic affair is suggested, with events in the air, on the water and on the land, also a parade in connection with their annual indoor exhibition. This would apply to all the Scouts in that part of the State from Boston west to Worcester. For western Massachusetts, it would be feasible for them to center in Springfield at the plant of the Eastern States Exposition.

Conventions and Visitors.

The Commission urges that an organized effort be exerted to make this the convention, congress and assembly center of the world in 1930. Here are the scenes of the beginning of civil government, the shrines of American liberty. National conventions, such as that of the American Legion and other military aggregations, the American Bar Association, patriotic and historical societies, Kiwanis, Rotary and like organizations may be attracted to have a part in this, one of the most significant anniversaries in all history.

Every effort should be made, through various forms of publicity, such as publications, films, the radio, hotels and transportation agencies, to bring direct attention of the entire country to what the tercentenary means to everybody, what is to be done to make it memorable.

As a phase of the plans to inspire general interest and attendance, the commission is of the opinion that,

in the interest of those who formerly were residents of New England and those descended from old families here, a "Back to New England" movement should be instituted, including a glorification of the "Old Home Day" spirit by having "Old Home Week" in New England.

It is estimated that two million people have toured by motor through New England during the current year. It is believed that ten million may be expected in 1930. Further, it is estimated that each million people spend seventy-five million dollars on motor trips, which means that each tourist ordinarily spends seventy-five dollars. It is held that in the tercentenary year visitors will remain longer, spending nearer one hundred dollars each, so that the estimate of ten million tourists alone in 1930 runs into impressive figures.

Historical Markers.

Many of the historic points in the Commonwealth are not designated by markers to attract the attention and interest of the public. Some are marked so inconspicuously that the public does not see them. Thousands of tourists will come here in 1930, to pay their tribute to the shrines of America's beginning. Every spot of historical significance, should be properly inscribed. Cities and towns and patriotic groups, which have accomplished considerable to that end, are urged by the Commission to carry it to as near a completion as possible for the tercentenary year.

Federal and State Participation.

Recognition and participation by the Federal government will be a factor in several elements of the anniversary observance, including a Navy Day, as projected, and in connection with the three hundredth anniversary of the General Court. Arrangements will be made with the Treasury Department for the minting of a tercentenary coin, and with the Post Office Depart-

ment for the issuance of tercentenary postage stamps. Various States, particularly those of the New England group, will have an official part in the observance.

The General Court.

The Commission recommends that the Massachusetts Legislature observe with fitting ceremony the three hundredth anniversary of the General Court, which falls on October 19, 1930, and that it also be made the occasion for official participation by the Federal and other State governments.

Memorial to the Founders.

The Commission's recommendation that murals be placed in the State House as a memorial to the founders of the Bay Colony is set forth in preceding pages of this report.

Some important public work, such as a building, a bridge or a recreation center, will be started by 1930 or completed that year, the Commission contemplates, which may take the form of, and could be designated as, a memorial worthy of the men and women who left a lasting impress on the Nation.

In that connection, the plan now under consideration to convert the Charles River Basin into a great recreational waterway will, it is anticipated, progress far enough to stand out as a tercentenary accomplishment.

Publication of Book.

The Commission recommends that arrangements be made for the publication of a Tercentenary Book, with a history of the Bay Colony, of the Province and of the Commonwealth, a story told in brief and popular style, in a form that will be actually read and absorbed. It should be in part a guide book. Visitors will look for it, and those who live here will profit by a more intimate knowledge of their great background.

Motion Pictures.

An outstanding film, depicting the story of Massachusetts and New England, for use in theaters all over the country, could be produced, the Commission believes, by bringing the possibilities of the subject to the attention of one of the large motion picture companies.

Appropriation.

For the expenses of administration and execution of anniversary events by the Massachusetts Bay Colony Tercentenary Commission, as outlined in this report, the Commission recommends an appropriation of $50,000; for the cost of murals in the State House to commemorate the founders of the colony, an appropriation of $30,000; for the acquisition of a part of the route of the advance and retreat of the British troops between Concord and Lexington, an appropriation of $25,000; total, $105,000.

Official Commission.

The Commonwealth's participation in and direction of the tercentenary celebration requires the creation of an official commission to be the controlling and coordinating agency. Accordingly, the Commission recommends the enactment of the accompanying resolve. (See Appendix A.)

Municipal Appropriations.

Special legislation will be required, if cities and towns are to be allowed to make appropriations in 1929, to be expended in 1930, for their local celebrations. Under the law, municipalities cannot appropriate money in one year to be used in the succeeding year. In the preparation of tercentenary plans, it probably will be necessary for some municipalities to make contracts and other arrangements in 1929, to

permit of sufficient time to lay out their 1930 programs. The Commission believes it would be advisable to permit modification of the law, to the end that cities and towns which will observe their three hundredth anniversary in 1930 may make appropriations therefor in 1929. (See Appendix B.)

Appendix A.

Resolve providing for the Appointment of a Massachusetts Bay Colony Tercentenary Commission for the Celebration of the Three Hundredth Anniversary of the Founding of Said Colony and for the Establishment of a Fitting Memorial to the Founders Thereof.

Whereas, The commonwealth of Massachusetts, by the appointment of a special commission under the provisions of chapter twenty-one of the resolves of the year nineteen hundred and twenty-eight, to devise plans for the celebration of the three hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, and relative to a suitable and fitting memorial to commemorate the founders of said colony, has determined that it is desirable to commemorate that event; and

Whereas, The said special commission has submitted its report to the general court of plans for the celebration of the three hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Massachusetts Bay Colony and for the establishment of a suitable and fitting memorial to commemorate the founders of said colony, together with its recommendations; therefore be it

Resolved, That, for the purpose of carrying into effect the said plans and recommendations, the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, shall appoint a commission of nine persons, to be known as the Massachusetts Bay Colony Tercentenary Commission.

For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this resolve, a sum not exceeding one hundred and five thousand dollars may be expended out of the treasury of the commonwealth, in such manner as the governor and council shall deem for the best interests of the commonwealth.

The commission hereby provided for shall serve without compensation, but may employ such experts and assistants, and expend such sums of money in the discharge of its duties, as the governor and council may from time to time approve.

Appendix B.

An Act relative to Appropriations by Cities and Towns for the Celebration of Their Three Hundredth Anniversaries in Nineteen Hundred and Thirty.

Section 1. Cities and towns which will observe in nineteen hundred and thirty the three hundredth anniversary of their settlement or adoption of local government may make appropriations for that purpose in nineteen hundred and twenty-nine.

Section 2. Said cities and towns may employ a secretary and other employees and secure the services of experts in the preparation of such plans and estimates as, in the opinion of the mayor and city council in cities, and of the inhabitants in towns, may be desirable.

Getting Ready Now!
1930 Celebration.....

OF

300th Anniversary of the Founding of the Massachusetts Bay Colony

THE PRINCIPLES PLANTED HERE BY THE PURITANS IN 1630 ROOTED FREE GOVERNMENT ON THIS CONTINENT. THEN AND THERE THE EXISTENCE AND CHARACTER OF THE FUTURE UNITED STATES WERE ASSURED

State-wide, all-New England program of national significance and attraction. Historic, cultural, distinctive, stimulating celebration on new lines. Pageantry, amusements, sports, popular enjoyment. Not a world's fair. Display in 50 centers of interest of the industry and thrift of 300 years. The entire year dedicated to the Tercentenary, with a special season from June to October of 1930.

MASSACHUSETTS BAY TERCENTENARY, INC. (see page 9 of report) is a citizens' organization, chartered 1927 under laws of the Commonwealth, to succeed a committee formed 1926, which was the pioneer in the present effort for an adequate and appropriate commemoration of the 300th anniversary in 1930 by state, section and nation.

The organization includes a GENERAL COMMITTEE of 300 men and women, ASSOCIATE MEMBERS, seventy CO-OPERATING ORGANIZATIONS, and COMMITTEES, with an employed staff, engaged in perfecting concrete plans and stimulating general interest and action.

A monthly bulletin of current intelligence, "TERCENTENARY NEWS OF 1930," with other bulletins at intervals, are issued as part of a PUBLIC INFORMATION SERVICE, for free distribution. These publications record the progress of preparations by local and national agencies so engaged, and may be obtained on request.

MASSACHUSETTS BAY TERCENTENARY, INC.

44 School Street, Boston, U. S. A.

President of Corporation,
Herbert Parker.

Chairman of Trustees,
Frederic Winthrop

Publications may be obtained also from:
Secretary of the Commonwealth, Document Room 118, State House, Boston; or from local committees at *Salem*, *Springfield* and other communities.

FEB 2 1929